

**COUNTY OF SAN LUIS OBISPO BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA ITEM TRANSMITTAL**

(1) DEPARTMENT Social Services	(2) MEETING DATE 6/16/2015	(3) CONTACT/PHONE Trish Avery Caldwell (805) 788-2601	
(4) SUBJECT Request to approve a FY 2015-16 renewal service contract (Clerk's File) for Emergency Shelter, Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC), and Wraparound Foster Care (WFC) with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI), a local foster family agency in the amount of \$4,941,404. All Districts.			
(5) RECOMMENDED ACTION It is recommended that the Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, a renewal service contract with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI), a local foster family agency, for Emergency Shelter, Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC), and Wraparound Foster Care (WFC) for FY 2015-16 in the amount of \$4,941,404.			
(6) FUNDING SOURCE(S) Federal, State and County	(7) CURRENT YEAR FINANCIAL IMPACT \$0	(8) ANNUAL FINANCIAL IMPACT \$4,941,404	(9) BUDGETED? Yes
(10) AGENDA PLACEMENT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Consent <input type="checkbox"/> Presentation <input type="checkbox"/> Hearing (Time Est. ____) <input type="checkbox"/> Board Business (Time Est. ____)			
(11) EXECUTED DOCUMENTS <input type="checkbox"/> Resolutions <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Contracts <input type="checkbox"/> Ordinances <input type="checkbox"/> N/A			
(12) OUTLINE AGREEMENT REQUISITION NUMBER (OAR) 19001528		(13) BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUIRED? BAR ID Number: <input type="checkbox"/> 4/5 Vote Required <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A	
(14) LOCATION MAP N/A	(15) BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENT? No	(16) AGENDA ITEM HISTORY <input type="checkbox"/> N/A Date: <u>June 17, 2014</u>	
(17) ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE REVIEW Morgan Torell			
(18) SUPERVISOR DISTRICT(S) All Districts			

County of San Luis Obispo



TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Social Services/Trish Avery Caldwell
(805) 788-2601

DATE: 6/16/2015

SUBJECT: Request to approve a FY 2015-16 renewal service contract (Clerk's File) for Emergency Shelter, Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC), and Wraparound Foster Care (WFC) with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI), a local foster family agency in the amount of \$4,941,404. All Districts.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board approve, and direct the Chairperson to sign, a renewal service contract with Family Care Network, Inc. (FCNI), a local foster family agency, for Emergency Shelter, Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC), and Wraparound Foster Care (WFC) for FY 2015-16 in the amount of \$4,941,404.

DISCUSSION

Nationwide, the foster care system serves around 400,000 children temporarily removed from abusive or neglectful homes, or children that no longer have a parent(s) that can provide care for other reasons [(2014 Adm. for Children and Families, The Adoption and Foster Care Analysis and Reporting System (AFCARS), Statistics, Report #21, <http://www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cb>)]. Statewide there are approximately 55,000 children and youth in foster care (2012, Annie E. Casey Foundation, www.kidsdata.org; Topic: School and Youth Safety/Foster Care) and locally the Department of Social Services of San Luis Obispo County (DSS) provides foster care services to around three hundred and fifty (350) children and youth each year ([Department of Social Services Snapshot of Children in Foster Care, December 31, 2014](#)).

When a child is placed outside of his/her home, Child Welfare Services (CWS), a division of the Department of Social Services (DSS), provides extensive services to the family of origin in hopes of reunification, or, when reunification is not an option, CWS provides for a permanent placement that meets the needs and safety of the child. Social Workers (SW) help provide adults, children and foster families, or other placement agencies, with services to stabilize the environment for the child or youth while a permanent case plan is being developed to address safety and health concerns of the child(ren). DSS has partnered with FCNI since 1992 to help meet the safety and health needs of each child served, while also meeting Federal and State foster care mandates.

FCNI is a private, nonprofit local foster family agency (FFA) that began providing services in 1987 with the purpose of creating family-based treatment programs as an alternative to group home or institutional care for children and youth. The agency's mission is "to enhance the well-being of children and families in partnership with our community" and serves approximately 1,600 children, youth and families annually ([2013-2014 FCNI Annual Report](#)). The agency provides extensive foster care services and currently operates seventeen (17) accredited programs within five (5) service divisions:

1. Therapeutic Foster Care
2. Family Support
3. Transitional Housing

4. Prevention and Early Intervention
5. Community-Linked

DSS contracts for three (3) programs that fall within the FCNI Therapeutic Foster Care division. Services are available upon request for children, youth and families that are served by DSS and referred to FCNI.

1. Emergency Shelter
2. Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC)
3. Wraparound Foster Care (WFC)

Emergency Shelter ensures ten (10) shelter beds with a certified or County-licensed family are available 24/7 to provide services to DSS children/minors who have been removed from their home due to abuse, neglect, child/youth disruptive behavior, or for other child safety reasons. Removing a child from a harmful environment can happen at any time and a safe placement must be available. Services provided while in shelter care are designed to develop and maintain positive, productive and healthy behaviors that focus on facilitating a successful transition to the biological family, or a more permanent placement with a foster family, or successful transition to independent living. FCNI is the only local provider for emergency shelter beds with a certified or County-licensed family to provide temporary care for foster children and youth ([2013-2014 FCNI Annual Report](#)).

Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC) services have been available through FCNI since 2004 and meet the needs of children/youth and families in the community. CFC provides family-centered crisis stabilization for minors requiring increased behavioral services in an out-of-home setting that exceed services provided in a basic foster care placement. CFC is a unique short-term crisis stabilization program, for up to ninety (90) days that utilizes Rehabilitation Specialist support *and* a behavioral management system with the intent of reunifying the child/youth to their home or prior placement. With six (6) available beds, FCNI has served one hundred sixty three (163) children/youth between 2004 and 2014 with eighty four percent (84%) of those placements successful based on: 1) stabilized family placement, 2) diversion from a higher level of institution care (i.e., averted from high-level institutional care), and 3) reunification or successful transition to independent living. FCNI is the only provider of CFC for foster children and youth in our County ([2013-2014 FCNI Annual Report](#)).

The Wraparound Foster Care (WFC) program offers alternatives to out-of-home placement in an institutionalized setting (i.e., group home) by bringing services like Rehabilitation Specialists, tutors, clinical supervision, and social workers to the family based on an approved service plan. WFC is family-based treatment in a very structured behavioral management system to support emotionally and/or behaviorally challenged children/youth as they work to gain behaviors that are appropriate in a family environment. When remaining in the family of origin is not in the best interest of the child, WFC can be provided to a child or youth in a foster family setting. WFC is funded at Group Home Rate Classification Level (RCL) 13 and is the only local provider of these services for foster children and youth ([2013-2014 FCNI Annual Report](#)).

All programs are delivered in partnership with public and private agencies and are designed utilizing "Best Practices" which include being family-focused, strength-based, needs driven, community-centered and culturally competent. Foster parents are specially trained to provide the best possible care for children/youth with high emotional/behavioral needs. These foster care programs not only assist the children/youth being served, but are also designed to provide parents with continuous support, training and agency accountability. For more information about services offered by FCNI you may visit their website at www.fcni.org.

Approval of this renewal contract will ensure FCNI continues to provide Emergency Shelter, CFC and WFC services for the County in support of the outcomes of Assembly Bill 636 (AB 636), the Child Welfare System Improvement and Accountability Act (better known as the System Improvement Plan or SIP), which focuses on continuous improvement, interagency partnerships, community involvement and public reporting on outcomes. These services support the Department and County goal of ensuring all people in the community enjoy healthy, successful and productive lives, and have access to the basic necessities.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT/IMPACT

This contract was developed in partnership with the FCNI and County Counsel has reviewed and approved the contract as to legal form and effect.

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS

The total contract amount for FCNI Emergency Shelter and Intervention Services is \$4,941,404 and funds three programs: Emergency Shelter, CFC, and WFC in the amounts of \$605,000, \$235,000, and \$4,101,404 respectively. The contract amount has increased due to higher pay rates to providers of foster care services. The contract is included in the DSS adopted budget for Fiscal Year 2015-16 and will require no additional General Fund contribution.

Agency		Budgeted FY 13-14	Budgeted FY 14-15	Budgeted FY 15-16	Notes	Sharing Ratios		
						Federal	Realignment 2011	County
FCNI	Shelter	\$ 458,000	\$ 458,000	\$ 605,000	Emergency Shelter and Intervention Services	12%	35%	53%
	CFC	\$ 382,000	\$ 382,000	\$ 235,000				
	WFC	<u>\$3,751,404</u>	<u>\$3,751,404</u>	<u>\$ 4,101,404</u>				
Total Contract Amount		<u>\$4,591,404</u>	<u>\$4,591,404</u>	<u>\$4,941,404</u>				

RESULTS

Fiscal Year 14-15

As of March 31, 2015, a total of 101 foster children and families received services during the contract year (15 Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care and 86 Wrap Placements). It is anticipated that this number will be higher by June 30, 2015, which is the end of the contract term. Emergency shelter services are measured in available shelter days and utilization of the available shelter beds on those days, and are reported in more detail below.

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2013-14 and received July 20, 2014, a total of one hundred and sixteen (116) foster children and families received services last year (12 Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care and 104 Wrap Placements).

Emergency Shelter

FCNI provided services that resulted in 1,587 available shelter days with a sixty three percent (63%) utilization rate as of March 31, 2015. *The current utilization rate exceeds the contract performance outcome rate of fifty five percent (55%). However, both the number of shelter days and the utilization rate will change based on the fourth quarter report which will be received on July 20, 2015.*

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2013-14 and received July 20, 2014, of the 3,211 available shelter days a total of 1,436 were filled resulting in a forty five percent (45%) utilization rate.

FCNI provided services that resulted in no substantiated reports of abuse/neglect as of March 31, 2015.

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2013-14 and received July 20, 2014, FCNI met its performance outcome to provide services that resulted in no substantiated reports of abuse/neglect.

Crisis-Stabilization Foster Care (CFC)

FCNI provided 1,558 CFC placement days with an eighty six percent (86%) utilization rate as of March 31, 2015. *Though this number will be slightly higher by the end of the FY, the placement days will most likely be lower than the contract performance outcome of 2,555 due to a lack of referrals from DSS for this service. The lack of referrals is primarily a result of a reduced need for CFC during this fiscal year. Each year the service type fluctuates and as needed, funding*

shifts to the program/service with the highest demand based on the needs of children and families in our communities. No appropriate referrals are turned away.

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2013-14 and received July 20, 2014, of 2,197 actual available placement days (based on year-end actual beds/placements available) a total of 2,084 placement days were utilized resulting in an eighty one percent (81%) utilization rate.

FCNI provided services that resulted in fifteen (15) teens receiving short-term (90-120 days) CFC services as of March 31, 2015. *Though this number will be slightly higher by the end of the FY, the number of teens served may be lower than the anticipated twenty-three (23) teens due to the following reasons:*

- 1. The behaviors and needs of the children being placed have been more severe therefore extending the length of stay and reducing the total number of children that can be served.*
- 2. Foster parent availability has been limited.*

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2013-14 and received July 20, 2014, a total of twelve (12) teens received short-term (90-120 days) CFC services.

FCNI provided services that resulted in eight seven percent (87%), or thirteen (13) of fifteen (15), children/youth utilizing CFC services stabilizing and being diverted from placement in a Rate Classification Level (RCL) 12-14 group home or hospital as of March 31, 2015. *The current stabilization rate exceeds the contract performance outcome rate of eighty five percent (85%). However, both the number of child/youth serviced and the stabilization rate will change based on the fourth quarter report which will be received on July 20, 2015.*

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2013-14 and received July 20, 2014, a total of ten (10) of twelve (12), or eighty three six percent (83%), of children/youth served had successful outcomes.

Wraparound (WRAP) Foster Care

FCNI provided services that resulted in eighty six (86) Wraparound placements, with at least forty seven (47) per month, as of March 31, 2015. *The current Wraparound placements are slightly below the contract performance outcome of ninety four (94) placements. However, it is anticipated this number will be higher based on the fourth quarter report which will be received on July 20, 2015.*

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2013-14 and received July 20, 2014, a total of one hundred and four (104) Wraparound placements were made last year.

FCNI provided services that resulted in eighty five percent (85%), or seventy three (73) of eighty six (86), of clients served being successfully stabilized and/or diverted from Rate Classification Level (RCL) 12-14 group home placement as of March 31, 2015. *The current stabilization rate exceeds the contract performance outcome rate of eighty percent (80%). However, both the number of child/youth serviced and the stabilization rate will change based on the fourth quarter report which will be received on July 20, 2015.*

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2013-14 and received July 20, 2014, a total of eighty five (85) of one hundred four (104), or eighty two percent (82%), of children/youth served had successful outcomes.

FCNI provided services that resulted in one hundred percent (100%) of children/families being served receiving crisis intervention services 24 hours per day, seven days per week as needed as of March 31, 2015.

Based on the final quarterly report for FY 2013-14 and received July 20, 2014, FCNI met its performance outcome and provided services that resulted in one hundred percent (100%) of children/families being served receiving crisis intervention services 24 hours per day, seven days per week as needed.

Fiscal Year 15-16

Emergency Shelter:

- FCNI will provide 3,285 shelter days with a utilization rate of fifty-five percent (55%) or 1,800 days filled.
- FCNI will have no substantiated reports of abuse/neglect.

CFC Services:

- FCNI will provide 2,555 child/youth placement days with a utilization rate of ninety percent (90%) or 2,300 days filled.
- FCNI will provide twenty-three (23) teens CFC services for 90 - 120 days.
- FCNI will provide services that result in eight-five percent (85%) of the children/youth (16) utilizing CFC services being stabilized and diverted from placement in an Rate Classification Level (RCL) 12-14 group home (i.e., placement in a facility to address emotional or mental health needs with special services) or hospital placement.

Wraparound Services:

- FCNI will provide wraparound services for up to fifty five (55) children/families per month, up to one hundred (100) per year.
- FCNI will provide services that result in eighty percent (80%) of clients served being successfully stabilized and/or diverted from RCL 12-14 group home placement.
- FCNI will provide services that result in one hundred percent (100%) of children/families being served receiving crisis intervention services 24 hours per day, seven days per week as needed.

ATTACHMENTS

1. FCNI/Emergency Shelter Clerk's File Statement